



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM GARDEZ
FORWARD OPERATING BASE GARDEZ, AFGHANISTAN
APO AE 09354

CJTF-101-GZ-PRT

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SUBJECT: Endorsement of a Private Sector Regional Shortflow Flour Mill

One of the most significant things that could happen to the agriculture and business sectors in Paktya and the surrounding region would be a modern commercial flour mill properly sized for this area such as the one proposed by Yousaf Zaland through the Department of State's Economic Empowerment in Strategic Regions (DOS/EESR) program. A commercial flour mill would provide the capacity to encourage farmers to grow wheat knowing that they can sell all that they produce rather than only growing what they will consume themselves. Additionally, other actors trying to develop agriculture in Paktya can tie into the mill's activities and leverage it for all concerned, possibly developing exciting options like a wheat growers association where the mill's profit motive encourages it to sponsor efforts to increase production and modernize farming methods. Another encouraging possibility is that the mill will provide better harvest storage facilities than those traditionally used which result in incredibly high loss percentages. Simply preventing harvest loss has the same effect as boosting production. There are many more advantages offered by an established modern commercial flour mill and I sincerely hope this project is successful.


BRETT D. SHARP, Lt Col, USAF
Commander, PRT Gardez